Declassified and Approved For Release 2014/01/06 : CIA-RDP86T00268R000300020032-4

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 15, 1958

18 AUG 950

Dear Bob:

Many thanks for your memorandum with respect to "discussion" papers.

I think I agree with your point as illustrated by the Middle East draft. However, I think we must remember that this paper is now a little more than a discussion paper and is tending towards something which could be a basis for policy decision.

Generally speaking, we cannot take the time that we have been taking with respect to the Middle East.

I hope that the Planning Board will soon address itself to a list of priority topics for discussion papers. At that time I hope you will make your point.

Gordon Gray

Special Assistant to the President

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cc: Mr. James S. Lay